

CHAIR - CHARLIE WILLARD, TEHAMA COUNTY  
1ST VICE CHAIR - RICHARD FORSTER, AMADOR COUNTY  
2ND VICE CHAIR - SUE HORNE, NEVADA COUNTY  
FAST CHAIR - VERN MOSS, MADERA COUNTY

PRESIDENT AND CEO - BRENT P. HARRINGTON  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT - GREG NORTON  
VICE PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS - PATRICIA J. MEGASON  
VICE PRESIDENT OF HOUSING - JEANETTE KOPICO

December 22, 2005

Mike Chrisman, Secretary  
California Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: CALFED Governance**

Dear Secretary Chrisman:

The 30 county members of the Regional Council of Rural Counties (RCRC), encompass forty percent of the land mass of California and in these member county watershed lands approximately eighty percent of the State's developed surface water supply originates.

As you know, RCRC has long advocated that the membership of the California Bay-Delta Authority specifically include a slot for a county government representative from one of the area-of-origin counties. I am writing to you today to urge the Administration to, as it considers the restructuring of CALFED, specifically include in the membership of the oversight body replacing the California Bay-Delta Authority a member of a county Board of Supervisors to represent the areas in which the majority of the State's water supply originates.

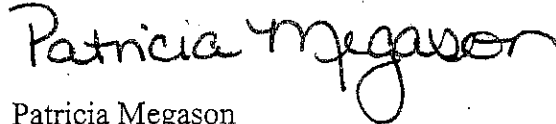
In addition, RCRC urges that a member of the county Board of Supervisors from the area-of-origin counties have a specific slot on the state policy advisory committee, which replaces the federally chartered Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee (as recommended by Little Hoover Commission and as contained in the 10-Year Action Plan Framework). The Little Hoover Commission when discussing the make-up of a new state advisory body recommended that "*Members should include stakeholders representing environmentalists, agricultural and urban water users, tribes, rural counties, environmental justice representatives, the business community and regional representatives*" (emphasis added).

Counties have statutory authority over local land use matters and are responsible for enforcing and/or implementing a variety of state laws affecting water quality, endangered species, flood protection, transportation and recreation, among others. RCRC believes that an area-of-origin county supervisor would bring both the oversight and policy advisory bodies valuable on-the-ground practical experience, as well as important insights on potential negative impacts of the CALFED Program upon upstream areas.

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Thank you for your serious consideration of this request. Please feel free to contact me should you have any comments or questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia Megason". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patricia Megason  
Vice President for Governmental Affairs

cc: Office of the Governor  
Director Joe Grindstaff, California Bay-Delta Authority  
Members, California Bay-Delta Authority  
Members, California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee  
Members, RCRC Member County Legislative Delegation